

A DESCRIPTION
OF
Montague County, Texas,
AND
⇒CITY OF BOWIE.⇒

SITUATED ON THE FORT WORTH & DENVER CITY RAIL-ROAD.

SHOWING FAITHFULLY THE
Advantages of Soil, Climate, Timber, Water
and Society. And other matters of impor-
tance to the Immigrant seeking
good homes.

THE CITY OF BOWIE
Is the best town north-west of Fort Worth.

*Has Superior Advantages and Facilities as a
Trading and Shipping Point.*

TO ALL SEEKING HOMES
Read Carefully, Mark Inwardly, and Digest Fully; Then hand to your Neighbor

BOWIE, TEXAS.
1884.

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Lumber and Building Material

LYON & GRIBBLE,

Always keep their yard stocked
to overflowing with

First Class Materials

in this line They are the most
extensive dealers in lumber, in
North-west Texas, and have the
best of everything and at the
lowest prices. Call and look
through their extensive yard
Bowie, Texas.

Yards at the following places, in Texas
Gainesville, Decatur, Bowie, Henrietta, Wichita Falls, Sherman
Whitesboro, Hillsboro, Alvarado and Alford.

INFORMATION REGARDING TEXAS.

Texas The Mighty State.

The distance from Dallam county, in the Texas panhandle, to Brownsville, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, is 800 miles, but we can better realize how far it is by saying that it is nearer from Dallam county, Texas, to St. Paul, Minn., or to Bismark, Dak., or to Helena, Mon., or to Yellowstone Park, in Wyoming; or to Salt Lake City, Utah, than it is from Dallam county to Brownsville, Texas. It is also nearer from Brownsville to Guatamala, in Central America, than from Brownsville to Dallam county. Again, it is nearer from Lipscomb county, Texas, to St. Louis than from the same county to Galveston. And even Chicago and Cincinnati are nearer to Texas than Dallam county is to Brownsville. It is further from Texarkana to El Paso than from Texarkana to West Virginia or North Carolina. Suppose a gentleman should start from Savannah, Ga. on the Atlantic, to look at a tract of land at El Paso. After traveling three day and nights on a passenger train, he might arrive at Orange, Texas. Of course when he puts his foot on Texas soil he would begin to look around to see how he liked the country by way of deciding whether he would buy El Paso land or not. But if told that he was not half way from Savannah to El Paso, he might turn back discouraged, but such would not be the fact. Again, Texas wants deep water at Galveston. But it is nearer from El Paso, Texas, to the deep harbor of San Diego, Cal. than from El Paso to Galveston. In fact, more than 1000 miles of the Pacific coast, extending from Los Angeles Cal. to Mazatlan, Mexico, is nearer to El Paso than any part of the Texas gulf coast.

J. M. Strong,
President.

J. A. Conner,
Vice-President.

H. H. Alvord,
Secretary.

The Bowie Real Estate and Immigration Company, Limited.

BOWIE, :: :: :: :: TEXAS.

Incorporated Under The Laws of Texas 1884.

This Company is prepared to make investments for citizens of other states, in City and Country property, Live Stock, Ranches and Wild Lands.

We have a large list of Farms and Lands for sale. Intending purchasers will be fairly dealt with and every care taken to help investors to buy such property as they may desire at true values. Immigrants seeking homes are cordially invited to correspond with us. Information given with pleasure. Correspondence and business solicited.

REFERENCES:

Bowie Bank, Bowie, Texas.
Henrietta National Bank, Henrietta, Texas.

MONTAGUE COUNTY, TEXAS.

One of the best Cereal, Cotton, Fruit and
Stock Counties of Northwest Texas.

Her Resources, Attractions and many advantages

Which now invite the attention of agriculturalists
And Stock Men.

Bowie, the Wonderful Little City of the
North West, her growth and astonishing progress
The largest City in Montague County.

The county is about equally divided between timber and prairie, and is broken in some parts, but contains large areas of level or undulating uplands diversified by broad fertile valleys and high rolling prairies. On the East side of the county is a chain of low mountains giving a beautifully picturesque scenery.

A belt of woodland averaging about fifteen miles in width, known as the upper cross timbers, runs north and south through the county, and consists chiefly of the low heavy topped post oak, interspersed with hickory and black jack.

Along Red River and some of the other streams is a heavy growth of water oak, walnut, pecan and cottonwood.

Red River and Bellknap, Denton, Clear, Farmers, Sandy, Beaver and Salt creeks are the principal water courses, and are very generally distributed throughout the county. There is a large number of springs, and wells of good water can be obtained in all parts of the county at an average depth of thirty five feet.

About three fifths of the county is susceptible of profitable cultivation the leading soils being a reddish loam, a gray sandy on clay foundation, and black sandy. All the improved agricultural implements are used by the farmers.

While claiming no superiority over other especially favorable sections of Texas, we simply admit without exaggeration, that in point of soil, locality and healthy climate, Montague county presents many attractions to the industrious, toiling thousands who have but a modest portion of this worlds goods, and with whom the chief

inducement is to realize from their moderate outlay of capital proportionately more than home investment yielded, this county offers special inducements; this assertion is fully demonstrated by the steady and rapid influx of this very class.

This county suffered from Indian depredations until 1875 which retarded its growth until 1876, since which time it has made gigantic development. In the year 1876 the assessed valuation of the entire county was \$700,000.

Ordinarily, the yield, per acre, is, of corn, 20 to 40 bushels; wheat, 15; oats, 40 to 60; rye, 20; millet, 2 tons; cotton, one third to three fourths of a bale. There are farms that yield 75 bushels of corn per acre, and one to two bales of cotton.

We are giving the average yields and not the extremes.

All ordinary garden vegetables are successfully raised in abundance, and peaches, apples, pears and plums when given proper attention yield well, and the fruit grows to a large size.

Rail fences cost from \$125 to \$150 per mile, and post and wire fence, from \$140 to \$175.

Pine lumber is worth \$24 per thousand feet.

There are in the county twenty five Steam Mills and Gins.

The principal towns of the county are Bowie, population, 2000; Montague, 800; St. Joe, 800; Forestburg, 300; Spanish Fort, 400; Sunset, 600.

There are 84 School districts with a scholastic population for the year of 1884, of 3,983. In each district a public school is taught five months in the year.

Bowie, Forestburg, St. Joe, Spanish Fort and Montague, supports first class schools ten months of the year.

There are from one to four church organizations in every school district in the county.

The county has developed rapidly in wealth, and the social and moral progress of the county has kept pace with its material development, and law is enforced, and life and property are safe.

There are surface indications of the presence of extensive deposits of iron and stone coal near the south west corner of the county and near Bowie.

In the north and north west corner of the county, copperas with traces of silver has been discovered. Stock raising is now generally

combined with agriculture which is a very profitable business.

The principal native grasses, Sage and Mesquite of several varieties, supplemented by the Bermuda, grow with a luxuriance not surpassed. The range, however, is rapidly giving way to the enclosed farms, and common stock to improved breeds, which are yearly engaging increased attention.

It is a splendid country for sheep raising. The average weight of fleece of common sheep 3 lbs: of Cotswold 10 lbs.

The assessor's office shows the following number of live stock in the county for 1884, Horses, 9, 493. Cattle, 42, 527. Jacks and Jennies, 55. Sheep, 13, 441. Goats, 1,269. Hogs, 20, 700.

The reader will see how rapidly the county has improved since 1876. The prospects are just as good for a still greater advance of wealth in the future as the past has been.

Work horses, mules and oxen are reasonably cheap; and supplies of all kinds can be had very cheap.

There is a bonded debt for a court house, but no floating debt, and the county tax is sixty five cents on the one hundred dollars.

Immigrants need fear no high taxation. The health of Montague county is good, with occasional exception of malarial attacks of a mild and easily controlled type.

The social condition of Montague and adjoining counties will compare favorably with that of other sections of the state. Our population is drawn from the East, West, North and South. This association of people of different habits and customs have established a happy medium in society that is commendable and desirable by all classes of immigrants.

People from older states will find that our Educational, Religious and Benevolent institutions do not differ materially from those of more wealthy and intellectual communities. Especially are strangers attracted by the earnest effort of our people to establish first-class institutions of learning all over the country.

No state in the union has such a magnificent landed endowment for school purposes, and the time is not far distant when Texas will have the most efficient public free school system of any other state.

Our present school law which is operative now, has many admirable features, and we expect decided improvement in our schools during the present year.

A hearty welcome is extended to all who come among us, regardless of their nativity. We have no North, no South, no East, no West

We consider ourselves one common people working for the development of our country and are proud of every movement that has for its object the advancement of the social, moral and religious condition of our people.

Bowie, The "Little Wonder of the West"

ONLY TWO YEARS OLD.

Situated in the southwest part of Montague county. It is happily situated, being the central point within a large scope of fine country and in the fertile and far-famed "CROSS TIMBERS." Situated on the Fort Worth & Denver City railroad, 68 miles from the city of Fort Worth, and 90 miles northwest from Dallas.

Bowie is now an incorporated city with good officers to preserve order. Its growth has been truly wonderful, and in three years, we predict it will have a population of 5,000 inhabitants.

The city is situated in the heart of a splendid farming district; on the east and south lie the best timbered farm lands in northwest Texas; and on the west and northwest a prairie country, finely adapted to either farming or stock raising or, what is better, both combined.

Bowie, from its advantageous situation, is the natural trade-center for a wide range of territory, extending to and along Red river on the north, and reaching into a good portion of the Indian Territory.

Bowie has 80 good business houses carrying every line of trade. There are six church organizations, a large and commodious Masonic Hall and School building.

The citizenship of the town is made up of citizens from all the states with a few foreign.

Parties coming to Bowie can find good Hotels and good Livery Stables with first-class turnouts.

Immigrants will always be received with a hearty welcome in Bowie.

Bowie, Texas, September 4, 1884.

Editors Cross Timbers.—

Gentlemen:

I hand you statement of my crop of this year, 1884, and while I am quite sure it could have been doubled, if the season had been a favorable one, yet I am well satisfied with the prospects of farming or gardening in Texas when I can do as well as I have done this year, with the disadvantage of the protracted drouth to contend with:

I only cultivated ten acres, and that was new land, which I broke last winter, and which does not stand the drouth as well as old land, or land that has been cultivated for some time.

I cultivated 4 acres in Water-melons, which produced about 6,000 melons; average price realized, 15c each; total, \$900.

I cultivated in Onions one acre, which produced 150 bushels; sold at \$1.00 per bushel. Total, \$150.

One acre in Tomatoes, from which I only saved 75 bushels, sold at \$1.00 per bushel. This crop, when seasonable, will produce from two to four hundred bushels per acre.

Two acres of my crop was planted in Potatoes, from which, owing to drouth, only 200 bushels were dug. Sold at \$1.00 per bushel. Total, \$200.

The remaining two acres was cultivated in Cabbage, Lettuce, Beets, etc., which netted about \$50, making the total crop on the ten acres, sold at the above figures, realize about \$1,375.

My young Orchard was set out last fall, and some of my early peach trees bore a few peaches this year of as good variety as ever was raised in Arkansas or the old Dominion state.

This has been the most unfavorable season for this kind of a crop I have ever seen, and as this crop was raised on sod land, without fertilizers, it speaks well for diversified crops in Texas under favorable circumstances.

Very Respectfully, yours,

H. R. DAVIS.

The above letter was written by a citizen of Bowie, to the "Cross Timbers" and shows for its self whether farming and gardening will pay. There were other parties engaged in gardening and did a profitable business.

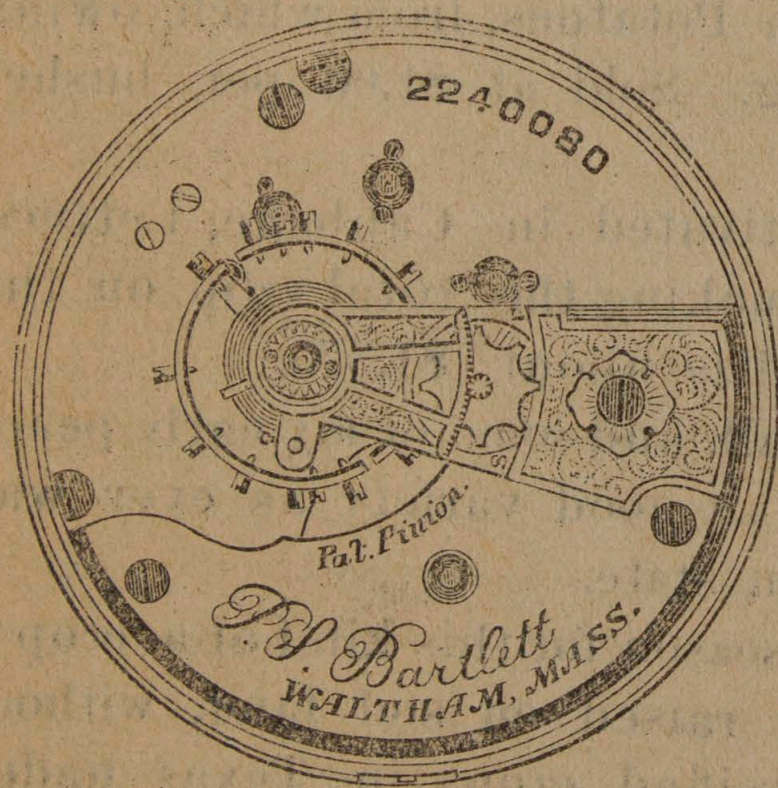
This only shows what can be done when the effort is made. The demand for Vegetable production has always been greater than the supply in the western towns, to which the Fort Worth & Denver City R. R. now opens up facilities for shipping all kinds of produce from this point.

Now in conclusion we ask all parties contemplating immigrating to Texas to take into careful consideration the advantages offered by Bowie and Montague county. The county has grown in wealth to over \$4,000,000 as shown by this years tax rolls.

Any and all parties wanting to know anything of Bowie and Montague county can get information by addressing H. H. ALVORD, Secretary of the Bowie Real Estate & Immigration Company, Limited.

Immigrants landing here will be assisted to secure homes and employment. Always call at the Company's office on arrival.

O. SCHEVENELL, Practical Watch Maker,



Is the oldest Watch Maker in Bowie, and is permanently located having been in Bowie, almost from the starting of the town, and while thanking my friends and the public generally, for their liberal patronage in the past, would say to them that I am now better prepared than ever before to do all kinds of work in

my line of business, which includes, Watch and Clock repairing, Making Rings, Jewelry, Medals, Lodge Jewels, Etc.

My prices are always moderate and all work warranted. A well selected stock of Jewelry, Waltham and Elgin Watches, Gold and Silver Poble Spectacles always on hand.

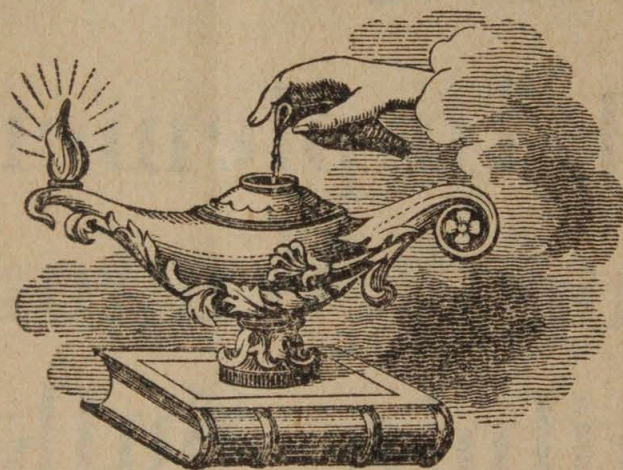
Market price paid in cash for old gold and silver.

O. SCHEVENELL

**KERR & JARROT,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW**

And Land Agents,

Will Practice in Clay, Jack, Wise and
Montague Counties. All business will receive
prompt attention, Bowie, Montague Co., Tex.



Bowie High School,

CONDUCTED BY

L. M. ROSSER,

ASSISTED BY

R. H. MILLER, and MRS. G. A. ROSSER,
MRS. B. E. GREEN, MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

Fourth session commenced September 1, 1884.

Number of Students in actual attendance 160.

All English Branches and Sciences, French,
German, Latin and Greek thoroughly taught in
this school. Discipline, mild but rigidly and
impartially enforced. Trustees: W. A. Mason,
J. H. Davis, and J. M. Strong.

A. G. CROWELL,

DEALER IN

 HARDWARE, STOVES,

TINWARE & QUEENSWARE.

Agricultural Implements, Barb-
wire, Spring Wagons, Farm
Wagons, Gilpin Sulky Plows,
Chieftin Hay Rakes, Buckeye
Reapers, Mowers and Low Down
Binders, Gin and Mill Machinery,
Boilers and Engines.

Mason Street, Bowie, Texas.

This is the largest and oldest
House in Bowie.

ALSABROOK & TUCKER,
Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots,
-o:(SHOES AND HATS.):o-

This is one of the principal business houses of Bowie, Live and energetic men: buy their goods cheap and can not be undersold.

Corner Mason and Wise Streets, Bowie, Texas.

W. S. TRIMBLE & CO.,
DEALERS IN
Staple and Fancy Groceries.

Tarrant Street, Bowie, Texas.

This is a live firm and do an immense retail business. They will be glad to answer correspondence about Texas.

A. Y. BETTIS,

Wholesale and Retail

DEALER IN

Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Patent Medicines, Toilet Articles,
Soaps, Perfumery, Fancy Goods, Gold and Silver Watches,
Silver Ware, Jewelry, Etc., Blank and School Books,
School Supplies, Stationary, Staple and Fancy Paper-
teries. Also Tobacco, Cigars, Cigaretts and
Smokers Articles, Paints, Oils and
Window Glass.

HE BEATS ALL PRICES, DUPLICATES NONE.
BOWIE, TEXAS.

O. C. SCHNEIDER & BRO.,

TINNERS.

DEALERS IN

Stoves and Tinware,

This is a live firm and can furnish goods at lowest figures,
Have a Tinsmith in connection with their house, where all
kinds of Manufacturing and Repairing is done to order.
Tarrant Street,

Bowie, Texas.

Ft. Worth & Denver City House.

On R. R. Front Street, Opposite Depot.

Bowie, - - Texas.

G. M. LONG, . . . PROPRIETOR.

Wagon and Feed Yard in Connection.

This House is situated convenient to Depot, and is the best eating house in the City. Plenty of good water for stock, and the traveling public.

 GOOD MEALS AND BEDS, 25c EACH. 

Good Rooms. Satisfaction Guaranteed.

WILEY M. SPEARS,
MANUFACTURER OF AND DEALER IN

Saddles, Harness and Bridles,

THE CHEAPEST AND BEST SADDLE HOUSE WEST OF FORT WORTH.

Orders from the country will receive prompt attention.

BOWIE, - - TEXAS.

PENN & PATTERSON,

Jobbers and Dealers In

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☞ FINE WINES, LIQUORS AND CIGARS. ☞

RANCHMENS' SUPPLIES A SPECIALTY.

The largest and best stock of Canned Goods and Fancy Groceries in the City.

Mason Street,

Bowie, Texas.

**J. N. TINDALL,
Attorney at Law,**

Land Agent and Notary Public,
BOWIE, - - - TEXAS.

I buy and Sell Lands, Render and Pay Taxes on Lands for Non-residence; Investigate and Furnish Abstracts to Titles; in fact do a General Land Business.

J. M. B. SALOON,

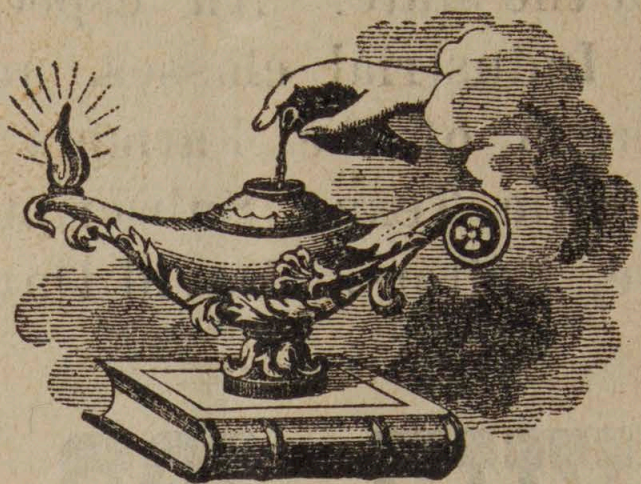
CHAMBERS BROS.....Proprietors.

Mason St., Bowie, Texea.

Billiard and Pool Tables in connection.

Fine Wines, Liquors and Cigars. Polite and courteous attention.

Bowie Male & Female Academy,



This institution is situated in Bowie, Montague county, Texas, in a high, healthy locality, surrounded by good influences. Its second session commenced September 1, 1884. All the branches of an English and classic education will be thoroughly taught.

For further information call on, or address,

*L. B. GROGAN, Principal.
Bowie, Texas.*

Z. T. LOWRIE.

WADE ATKINS.

Z. T. LOWRIE & CO.,

Wholesale and Retail

GROCERS.

MASON STREET,

BOWIE, TEXAS.

Jobbing orders solicited and satisfaction guaranteed.
Ft. Worth or Dallas prices duplicated.

"THE CROSS TIMBERS"

THE ONLY PAPER PUBLISHED IN THE CITY.

A 7 column, 4 page paper devoted to the interests of the City of Bowie and Montague and adjoining counties. Also the general news of the state. An especial friend to the Farming and Industrial classes, and the official county organ of the Farmers Alliance.

Published Weekly at Bowie, Texas, Subscription. \$1.50 a year in advance. Davies & Heare, Editors. David Davies, Business Manager.

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Mercantile Printing

Of all kinds will be done to order on short notice.

My Specialty is

Note Heads, Letter Heads, Bill Heads, Cards, Statements, Envelopes, Blanks, Etc.

For Samples and Prices address,

F. S. WILLIAMS,
Bowie, Montague County, Texas.

H. A. BAKER,

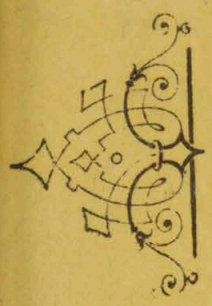
Physician and Surgeon,

BOWIE, TEXAS.

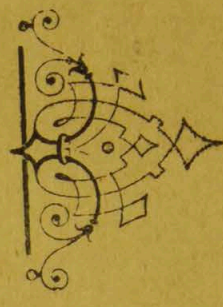
W. R. Curtis,
President.

W. S. Ikard,
Vice-President.

J. W. T. Gray,
Cashier.



THE BOWIE BANK,



BOWIE, TEXAS.

G. B. GRAY, Manager.

CAPITAL STOCK, \$50,000

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DRUGGISTS & BOOKSELLERS,

HEADQUARTERS FOR
PURE FRESH DRUGS,
ALSO A COMPLETE STOCK OF
Trusses, Surgical Instruments, Braces,
AND A COMPLETE STOCK OF
TOBACCO AND CIGARS.
BOWIE, TEXAS.



CITY DRUG STORE

WORLEY & SMITH, Proprietors

"The Leading Druggists"

OF

BOWIE. TEXAS.

WE HAVE A FULL AND COMPLETE STOCK

*Pure Fresh Drugs, Chemical
Pharmaceuticals, Proprietary and
Medicines, Druggists' Sundries,
and Oils, Cigars, Pipes and Tobacco,
Toilet and Fancy Articles, Stationery,
School Books and School
Supplies, Watches, Clocks,
and Jewelry.*

*Our purchases for the Holiday Trade will
Stock the Largest ever brought to this City
are Always the Lowest, for we believe in
and Small Profits. Our motto is: "Live and Let Live"*

*Strangers and others coming to Bowie
cordially invited to call and make Our
Headquarters, where they will have All the
and information at our command, extended*

Ours was the first Established Drug Store
